

U.S. Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration
1100 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22209-3939



DEC 19 2013


MEMORANDUM FOR NEAL H. MERRIFIELD
Administrator for Metal and
Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health

FROM:

JEFFREY A. DUNCAN 
Committee Chair
Director for Educational Policy and Development


HEIDI W. STRASSLER 
Associate Solicitor for Mine Safety and Health

GEORGE M. FESAK 
Director of Technical Support

NANCY M. SAHAKIAN, M.D. 
Senior Program Management Consultant, Clinical Operations,
Federal Occupational Health Service, United States Public
Health Service

ANGELICA HACKNEY 
Chief, Office of Program Policy Evaluation

SUBJECT: Fatality Review Committee Decision on Chargeability

Case No.: 2012-M-24-

Deceased: 

Date of Incident: October 05, 2012

Date of Death: October 05, 2012

Operator: Linwood Mining and
Minerals Corporation

Mine: Linwood Lime Plant

Decision: Not chargeable

In a unanimous decision, the Fatality Review Committee has determined that the death of [REDACTED] should not be charged to the mining industry. [REDACTED], a 50 year old electrician, was found by co-workers on the floor of a storage building. Evidence found at the scene indicated that he committed suicide by hanging himself from a nylon electrical pull string over a piece of angle iron positioned between two I-beams. As his weight was applied, the angle iron dislodged causing him to fall to the concrete floor approximately ten feet below. A suicide note was found in his pocket.

The death certificate and autopsy report both indicated that the cause of death was ligature hanging. The death certificate also determined that the manner of death was suicide. The toxicology screen was negative. The MSHA investigation found that he was not performing mining related work activities at the time of death and that his death was not caused by mining equipment.

Based on the findings of the death certificate, the autopsy report and the MSHA investigation, the committee members concluded that the death of [REDACTED] should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Joseph A. Main
Patricia W. Silvey
Stephen R. Weatherford